

GENERAL NOTES

Conducted by M. H. Swenk

The Starling in Michigan.—In the March, 1929, number of the WILSON BULLETIN (p. 62), Mr. E. C. Hoffman proposes to prepare a distribution map of the Starling (*Sturnus vulgaris*) and suggests that reports concerning the appearance of these birds be sent in. I lived in Grand Rapids, Michigan, from 1921 to 1928, and noted, from time to time, reports of the presence of the species in the neighborhood of Detroit and, later, at Battle Creek. I do not recall any report of a western extension in the Lower Peninsula beyond the point last named. In February, 1927, about a dozen Starlings were present in East Grand Rapids. The birds congregated at the water tower, the lower part of which was encased with wood. The perforations in this casing made by woodpeckers served as roosting places for the Starlings. I saw them again in this place in 1928, but do not know whether they resorted to the locality again this year.—EDWARD R. FORD, *Fort Lauderdale, Fla.*

Nesting of the European Starling in Butler County, Ohio.—On April 4, 1929, I noted a pair of European Starlings (*Sturnus vulgaris*) gathering material for a nest. The nest was in an old catawba (*Catalpa bignonioides*) tree five feet from the ground. Both birds assisted in gathering the nesting material. The birds were identified by their brownish black color and yellow bills. This is, I believe, the first record of their nesting in this county.—C. K. LLOYD, *Oxford Ohio.*

The European Starling at Urbana, Illinois.—In the March, 1928, issue of the WILSON BULLETIN I published a short note under the above title, in which I offered sixteen new records for the European Starling at Urbana, Illinois, these covering a period of two years. At the time of that publication a Starling was to me a most interesting find, a bird rare enough to warrant enthusiasm. The manuscript of the 1928 note left my hands the middle of December, 1927. Beginning in February, 1928, the number of Starlings in this vicinity began to increase, and I added twenty-two new records during February, March, and April of 1928. Then the number of reports of Starlings dropped off materially until November, when the increase resumed. Since November, 1928, I have lost all track of Starling records in this vicinity, as there have been so very many of them. Now (March, 1929), the species is so common here that I can not spend two hours in the field without finding from ten to fifty Starlings. When I published my first note just a year ago, I fully expected to publish a yearly account of new central Illinois records. I hereby resign that intention. Central Illinois is no longer "very close to the periphery of the range of the Starling." The vanguard of the westbound Starling army has passed me by.—A. R. CAHN, *University of Illinois, Urbana, Ill.*

The Starling at New Hampton, Iowa.—On March 31, 1928, a Starling (*Sturnus vulgaris*) was taken in a sparrow trap belonging to Louis Fliger. This is the first record, so far as I know, for northeast Iowa, and follows very closely on the taking of individuals at Oxford, Iowa, by Prof. Kubichek, of Coe College, Cedar Rapids. Last summer (1928) I drove from here to Columbus, Ohio, during the last week in June, and the first Starlings seen as I went east were at Greenfield, Indiana.—CHAS. J. SPIKER, *New Hampton, Iowa.*